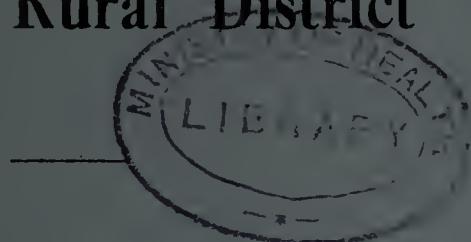


# **Southam Rural District**



## **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE  
HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT  
FOR THE YEAR 1952,

BY  
D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE  
**Warwickshire Combined Districts.**

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**Leamington Spa**

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1953



38, HOLLY WALK,

LEAMINGTON SPA.

*30th November, 1953.*

**To the Southam Rural District Council**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my third annual report, that on the health of the district for the year 1952. The vital statistics show that the birth rate is above and the death rate is below the national average and there have been no epidemics.

In the modern view the Medical Officer of Health and his department should now move away from environmental and sanitary work towards the more personal health services. While this may hold good for many areas it is hardly true in relation to the Southam Rural District where considerable problems exist in relation to water supplies, sewerage and housing which can only be solved by many years of sustained activity on the part of this Council.

The existing inadequate supplies of water were strained during the year and there was no substantial addition to your resources. Once again many villages relied largely upon the Rugby main. In view of the extent to which the district today uses this water, press reports of the opposition to the scheme to lay the Rugby main in 1936 make very curious reading today.

Discussions were held during the year which helped to clarify plans for the future. Briefly these are as follows. The Southern parishes will be connected to the new main laid through the Shipston R.D. from spring sources in the North Cotswolds ; these supplies assisted by pumping will be made available at your Southern boundary and led to a reservoir at Edgehill. From this point water will be distributed by gravity with provision to break the pressure.

The Northern parishes are to be served by a main bringing water from outside the district and it has not yet been decided whether connection will be made to the Coventry supply or to a proposed impounding reservoir at Leamington Spa. In either

event it is probable that other authorities will join this Council in the scheme. To meet the needs of new housing in the two to three years before these schemes can be put into operation, several boreholes have been sunk but the results of the tests have not been encouraging. Unfortunately many parts of your district are almost lacking in natural water supplies and in other parts where such sources exist the quality is often unsuitable for a public supply.

A survey was made of the villages where no sewerage plans have been made in order to assist the Council in deciding which schemes should first be put to the Consulting Engineers. Also reports were made in connection with existing sewerage proposals at the time of submission to the Minister. This was in accordance with Circular 54/52 which requires the Medical Officer of Health to support proposals relating to water supplies or sewerage which are to be made to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for loan sanction.

First consideration is to be given to work for obviating pollution of water supplies, relieving the flooding of dwelling houses and replacing machinery where there is a risk of a breakdown. The Council, having few schemes in existence but many in draft, is obviously affected by the terms of this circular which seeks to put off new capital developments until such time as national finances can better match popular aspirations. The Medical Officer of Health has not to consider the desirability of a scheme *per se* or the local demand to be met but only the existence or absence of a definite danger to the public health. I am therefore grateful to the members of the Council for their understanding of the need to restrict such support to essential public health problems.

During the year the Housing Survey was completed by the Surveyor and his report came before you. A very brief summary is given upon page 9 which will show the extent of the Council's future housing problem and also the gravity of a water shortage which threatens to impede for several years new house building, both public and private, as well as much of the necessary improvements and reconditioning of older houses : fuller details appear on page 17.

Your food and drugs byelaws have already been of great assistance in improving conditions in food shops, a subject which occupied a good part of the time of Mr. Brooks through-

out the year. Attention was also paid to the sale of food from stalls and vehicles in the open air although, in a rural district, supervision is not easy. Generally speaking there is a need in your district for improved standards of food handling. A public convenience has now been erected in Southam but many of the other problems noted in last year's foreword still remain.

Attention is drawn to certain changes introduced by the local health authority in your area. A new voluntary child welfare centre has been established in Fenny Compton which is helped by hired transport to serve several neighbouring villages. Centres are also planned for the Edgehill and Gaydon Camp areas. At Napton, Stockton and Long Itchington the County Council has made experimental use of its new caravan clinic which is of modern design and equipment and similar in some respects to the vehicles employed for some years in the school dental service.

Immunization against Whooping Cough has also been added to the services available under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act.

In conclusion my thanks are due to the Council and its Officers for much help and kindness during the year which is past.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## ***Southam Rural District.***

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### **A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.**

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1952	...	...	12,550
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	16.1
"      "      "      "      (Corrected)	...	...	18.2
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 live births			20.7
Death Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	9.6
"      "      "      "      (Corrected)	...	...	9.1
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	From Sepsis	...	—
	"      other causes	...	—
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	14.9
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	16.2
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
"      " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
"      " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

The estimated population shows a decrease of 150 during the past year.

The infantile mortality rate is low and birth rate is more favourable than that for the whole country (*i.e.* 15.3); the death rate is also more favourable, (the E. and W. rate = 11.3).

### **B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.**

#### **1. (a) Public Health Officers.**

*Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.*

S. C. WHITEHEAD, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*Assistant Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.*

G. S. H. PEATY, M.S.I.A.

*Additional Sanitary Inspector.*

P. F. BROOKS, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.

2. (a) *Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Coventry.

	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Total</i>
Dysentery	—	...	—
Tuberculosis	—	...	—
Diphtheria	—	...	1
			—
			1
			—

Many examinations are of course carried out in hospital laboratories in connection with the work of the Chest Clinics.

## C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### 1.—*Water Supply.*

Relief from severe shortage of water will be brought by the comprehensive water supply schemes so that everything possible was done to press these forward. As reported to the Council at their May meeting the appropriate Minister has approved in principle the Council's water supply scheme for the southern parishes of the district.

Stratford Rural District Council intimated that they were unable to supply water to the parishes of Gaydon, Chadshunt, Lighthorne and Chesterton, as had been originally intended, so that these parishes had to be transferred to the Northern Scheme prepared by Colonel Nicoll (W. Herbert Bateman and Partners, Consulting Water Engineers).

In March the Air Ministry called a meeting of technical officers representing the Councils of Rugby Borough, Rugby Rural District and Southam Rural District to examine the possibility of supplying 100,000 gallons per day to the Airfield, via the Southam Rural District mains. Subsequently this Council was asked to provide for a supply of 150,000 g.p.d. to the Airfield in the Northern Area Comprehensive Scheme.

*Southam and Long Itchington.*—Owing to the usual fall of yield of the well, it was necessary again to restrict the supply to consumers.

At Long Itchington a dis-used borehole was re-opened, but before carrying out any pumping test the analyses of the water were submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for their observations on the quality ; these were awaited.

*Ratley*.—The Council were advised by the Ministry of the award of a starting date for the village water supply (borehole) scheme on 1st December, 1953.

The emergency supply to the Edgehill district was continued.

*Warmington*.—As a housing measure a borehole was sunk but the yield was too low to be developed and it was abandoned. A private spring supply was examined but it was not found to be suitable for use.

A test was then made of the possible use of the existing water supply to the village, by providing standpipes to a small number of new houses. However, a further gauging of the springs showed that the yield had been reduced to half the previous flow—and this was insufficient to allow of a service to any new buildings.

*Burton Dassett*.—In the hope of obtaining water for new housing purposes, a pumping test was carried out on the well serving the existing Council houses ; the test showed that there was not enough. A water diviner was then engaged to make a survey, but his report was that boring operations would not be successful. It was, therefore, decided to seek the Minister's approval to the building of a small number of new houses on a standpipe supply.

## GENERAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF WATER SUPPLY

1. Whether the supply has been satisfactory—  
  - (a) in quality—Yes. The Council's supplies have been generally satisfactory.
  - (b) in quantity—serious shortage has existed almost throughout the year.
2. Where a piped supply, whether bacteriological samples were made for (a) raw (b) treated water. Regular samples were taken and the treatment of the water was regulated in accordance with the findings.

3. The water from Holywell is now passed through a sand filter and also chlorinated.

4. Particulars of proportion of dwelling houses and proportion of population supplied by public water mains.

Parish.	Total No. of Houses.	Total No. of Population.	Supply direct to (a) Houses. (b) Population.		Supply by stand pipe to (a) Houses. (b) Population.	
	59	210	12	42	42	150
Avon Dassett (Private Com- pany).						
Bishops Itch- ington	....	277	978	141	493	90
Burton Dassett	160	473	106	316	35	102
Fenny Compton (Private supply)	175	591	87	291	78	260
Gaydon	....	88	304	74	257	7
Harbury	...	434	1458	233	779	127
Ladbroke	....	57	194	53	184	1
Lighthorne	....	95	266	33	90	2
Long Itchington	403	1358	149	507	126	428
Lower Shuck- burgh	...	23	70	17	50	—
Napton	....	243	905	127	465	81
Priors Hardwick	59	169	43	124	12	33
Priors Marston	155	458	131	390	14	40
Radway	....	79	212	50	135	23
Southam	....	512	2030	310	1235	196
Stockton	....	282	989	197	690	37
Ufton	....	64	155	20	65	—
Upper Rad- bourne	....	4	9	4	9	—
Warmington	....	87	307	1	3	41
						143

### Gaydon Camp

There are 102 huts used as dwellings by 408 people, all have an internal water supply.

#### *Sewerage and Sewage Disposal—*

(a) *Harbury and Bishops Itchington*

(b) *Napton*

Work continued on these Schemes.

*Long Itchington, Burton Dassett, Gaydon and Stockton.*—The public inquiry was still awaited, and is expected to take place during 1953.

*Priors Marston and Lighthorne.*—The reports of the Consulting Engineers were received together with outline plans and these were approved.

*Fenny Compton.*—The report of the Consulting Engineers was awaited.

*Southam.*—The Consulting Engineers submitted their outline preliminary scheme.

*Unsewered Villages.*—The Medical Officer of Health and the Surveyor carried out a survey of the present systems of sewerage and sewage disposal in all the villages not yet considered by the Council for proper schemes and a joint report was submitted by the Medical Officer of Health and the Surveyor on the position in those parishes where there was no resolution of the Council to prepare sewerage and sewage disposal schemes.

Consideration was given to the following main points :—

- (1) existing nuisance from fouling of ditches and water courses.
- (2) existing water supply and the effect of the provisions of adequate supplies by the comprehensive schemes now in preparation.
- (3) Existence of pail closets.
- (4) New housing.

The Council adopted a recommended order of priority and in advocating this the Medical Officer of Health emphasised the serious position which will arise, particularly in the Edge Hill villages, when the Shipston Water arrives.

*Public Cleansing.*—The contract for scavenging Stockton was terminated on 31st March and the Council took over the refuse and night soil collection after that date.

## D. HOUSING.

The Housing Survey was completed and the report prepared towards the close of the year, for presentation to the Council in January, 1953.

The report showed that nearly two out of every three houses in the district are in need of either major repairs or of structural alterations or additions. Some three householders in every five depend for their water supply upon pumps and standpipes, whilst less than one in five has the use of a water closet. Some two-thirds of all totally unfit houses are concentrated in six of the larger villages, so that a few water and sewerage systems could be made to serve the majority of the new houses needed for replacement of worn out ones.

## E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The Council adopted Bye-Laws made under section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption.

Proceedings were instituted in two cases, under section 73 of the Food and Drugs Act for generally dirty and unhygienic conditions in food shops, and convictions were recorded and penalties imposed.

In one case the Council's costs exceeded the total fines imposed. One case related to unhygienic conditions at a general grocery store and the other to the dirty state of a village bakehouse. This was inspected some month's later and again found to be filthy and overrun with rats. Warning was given of the intention to take fresh court proceedings but these were withdrawn upon receipt of an undertaking to close down the bakery.

## F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

### *Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1945.*

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1952.

*Diphtheria Immunisation.*—During 1952 17 schoolchildren were immunised and also 101 under 5 years of age, giving a total of 118.

In addition 221 children received "Booster" doses.

These numbers are slightly less than last year's totals and are only about two-thirds of the desired minimum of 75 per cent.

Cases of infectious disease are no longer removed to Heathcote Hospital, Warwick, as this has become an annexe for the treatment of Tuberculosis. Cases must now be removed by arrangement to the Whitley Isolation Hospital, Coventry or to Little Bromwich, near Birmingham.

There was no special prevalence of any infectious disease during the year.

## TUBERCULOSIS

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	5	6	1	—	—	1	—	—

*Tuberculosis.*—The following table shows the notified cases and deaths during the past 20 years:—

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Cases	... 17	19	16	14	15	19	12
Deaths	... 5	9	7	3	4	6	7
	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Cases	... 6	14	15	9	14	10	11
Deaths	... 8	3	3	7	4	7	6
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	
Cases	... 18	20	19	12	15	12	
Deaths	... 7	3	6	6	1	1	

11 patients were admitted to Sanatorium during 1952. 8 were discharged.

When considering the above figures for case incidence and annual deaths it should be remembered that the population has increased from 9,738 in 1931 to the present level of 12,550.

The death rate is the lowest in the available records. The number of new notifications has, however, not fallen off and it is perhaps due to more thorough contact tracing that more early cases have come to light, many of them having a good chance of a favourable response to treatment.

#### **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948**

This Act provides inter alia for assistance to be given by the National Assistance Board to persons in need, for the provision of accommodation and welfare services by County Councils and for the registration of homes for disabled persons and the aged. Section 47 of this Act was designed to secure necessary care and attention for persons who—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

If the Medical Officer of Health gives a written certificate in the prescribed form, the local authority may apply to a court, having jurisdiction for an order to remove the person to a suitable and convenient place, e.g. hospital. Seven days clear notice must be given of the intended application and it must also be given to the person managing the premises. The order, if granted, may authorize a persons detention for a period not exceeding three months. A later amendment provides that upon the written report of the medical officer of health and another medical practitioner, the case may in emergency be heard before the court or a single magistrate without the giving of seven days clear notice. An order granted in this way will have effect only for a short period. The council has authorized me to act in accordance with the aforesaid procedure. Observation was kept on two cases during the year. One old lady living alone and of intemperate habits was removed to a hospital chronic ward through the help of the Area Welfare Officer. The other old lady, who showed marked infirmity of body and mind, was kept out of an institution through the kind help of neighbours until her final illness and death.

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#### **REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.**

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#### **To the Southam Rural District Council**

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**TO CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

I beg to submit the annual report for work done in the Sanitary department during the year ending 31st December, 1952.

*Milk and Dairies Regulations.*

All retailers and distributors of milk are registered with this authority, although the great majority are producer retailers, and as such come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Action has been taken in a number of cases where delivery methods were below standard, and one sample was taken of ungraded milk—this was unsatisfactory and the person concerned has now ceased production.

*Refuse collection.*

Some reorganisation of the routine was necessary to include the village of Stockton for the collection of nightsoil and domestic refuse (ashes, etc.). Most of the houses in that village had ashpits so that, once again the difficulty arose of the provision of ashbins. In this connection it is to be recorded that an excellent example was sent by the principal landlord (the local cement works)—who readily complied with the notices to provide bins. Acknowledgment must be made of the continued service of the men who carry out the work; there has been no easing of labour difficulties and it is most difficult to replace men who leave to take up work of a more pleasant nature. As yet it has been possible to preserve the regular service, but no guarantees can be given for the future. The following table gives details of the parishes receiving the service, the figures given being loads removed.

<i>Parish.</i>		<i>Ashes.</i>		<i>N/S.</i>
<i>Avon Dassett</i>	...	12	...	26
<i>Bishops Itchington</i>	...	72	...	78
<i>Burton Dassett</i>	...	24	...	78
<i>Farnborough</i>	...	12	...	—
<i>Fenny Compton</i>	...	52	...	104
<i>Gaydon Camp</i>	...	26	...	—
<i>Gaydon</i>	...	24	...	26
<i>Harbury</i>	...	150	...	156
<i>Ladbroke</i>	...	6	...	26
<i>Lighthorne</i>	...	26	...	26
<i>Long Itchington</i>	...	120	...	104
<i>Napton</i>	...	60	...	104
<i>Priors Hardwick</i>	...	6	...	13
<i>Priors Marston</i>	...	26	...	26
<i>Radway</i>	...	12	...	—
<i>Ratley</i>	...	12	...	—
<i>Shotteswell</i>	...	12	...	—

<i>Parish.</i>		<i>Ashes.</i>		<i>N/S.</i>
<i>Southam</i>	...	...	156	...
<i>Stockton</i>	...	...	168	...
<i>Ufton</i>	...	...	6	...
<i>Warmington</i>	...	...	12	...
<i>Wormleighton</i>	...	...	6	...

In addition there is a monthly collection of tins, etc., from Southam, Long Itchington and Harbury—which is still undertaken by Contract.

#### *Infectious Disease.*

Visits of inspection were made and enquiries made on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health in the following cases :—

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2
Para-typhoid	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1

Disinfection was carried out in 2 of the above cases, namely :—

Scarlet fever	...	...	2
and upon T.B. removals	...	...	4

Spraying was also carried out in respect of 2 beetle infestations.

#### *Slaughterhouses.*

These number 13 and all, being unsuitable for use, are now closed. All slaughtering is carried out in the central abattoirs in Rugby and Coventry.

#### *Food Shops and Food Preparing places.*

During the past year 131 visits to these have been made. It was noted that in the majority of cases the structural design and condition of the property resulted in shops with poor ventilation, insufficient height and storage place, and in many cases there was no readily accessible and available hot water, towels and soap ; in some cases, no mains water was available and in such cases the strict interpretation of the law is often costly and difficult.

During the year two successful court proceedings were taken, being in respect of a dirty bakehouse and dirty shop. Fine of £9 and £6 were imposed respectively. Both cases were taken after long and numerous warnings—the bakehouse has now closed down,

*Food Inspection.*

Requests were received from several sources for the inspection of unsound food, in all cases the appropriate action was taken to ensure that unsound food did not reach the consumer.

The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

Tinned Goods	...	...	82 lbs. 15 ozs.
(tinned meat and jam, fruit, etc.)			
Meat	...	...	238 lbs. 4 ozs.
Flour	...	...	1½ cwt.
Rice, Ground	...	...	1 lb.

*Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.*

Maintenance work has been carried out to sewers and the disposal works as required ; sewer ditches have been cleansed as labour permitted. In common with other authorities there has been difficulty at disposal works caused by the use of the detergents which are now so popular with housewives.

In conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health, a survey was made of all the villages in respect of which there are no resolutions of the Council to provide sewerage and sewage disposal schemes. The survey made particular consideration of the position which will arise if and when the Comprehensive water scheme for the Southern Parishes (Shipston/ N. Cotswold scheme) comes to fruition. The taking of piped water to the Edgehill villages is bound to cause serious trouble from the want of adequate drains and sewers. Such conditions have already been experienced in villages such as Stockton and Lighthorne to mention only two, where the problem of disposal can only be solved by proper sewerage and sewage disposal schemes. It has, in my opinion, been well said that in the undeveloped villages water and sewerage schemes should go hand in hand.

*Water Supply.*

The following samples were taken of public and private supplies :—

Bacteriological	...	...	71
Chemical	...	...	9

Appropriate action was taken where necessary.

There was the usual seasonal shortage of water and in April it was considered necessary to warn the Council that the proposed erection of a further number of Council houses would result in a shortage of supply to certain villages. The Council urged the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to approve the provision of potable water by standpipes as a temporary measure pending the coming to fruition of one or both of the comprehensive water schemes.

During the year there was the usual amount of maintenance work carried out by the department—such as burst mains, detection of waste and mis-use of water, repair of communication pipes, meter reading (there are now 164 metered supplies) installation and repair of service and mains meters, temporary highway reinstatements.

The water department also designs the water mains, supervises their installation and carries out the testing—on new housing estates ; also the supervision of the sinking and testing of boreholes and the installation of pumps and pressure tank systems, where local supplies are used, and the testing of these works.

The following table shows the number of new connections to the Council's mains :—

<i>Parish</i>		<i>New Connections into Houses</i>	<i>Transferred from stand pipe into houses</i>
<i>Bishops Itchington</i>		17	—
<i>Gaydon</i>	...	4	—
<i>Harbury</i>	...	11	—
<i>Lighthorne</i>	...	3	—
<i>Long Itchington</i>	...	5	—
<i>Napton</i>	...	10	—
<i>Priors Marston</i>	...	2	4
<i>Southam</i>	...	2	—
<i>Stockton</i>	...	18	—
<i>Ufton</i>	...	9	—
		82	4

*Housing.*

The rural housing survey was completed for presentation to the Council. It revealed some surprising facts the principal ones being set out below :—

## SUMMARY OF HOUSING SURVEY REPORT

Total number of houses inspected	...	...	2783	%
Number of houses fit in all respects	...	...	298	10.7
"    "    "    "    with minor defects	...	...	202	7.3
"    "    "    "    requiring alteration or major	...	...	1733	62.3
"    "    "    "    repair	...	...	521	18.7
"    "    "    "    requiring demolition	...	...	2105	75.6
"    "    "    "    with no fixed bath	...	...	1156	41.7
"    "    "    "    with internal water supply	...	...	1581	56.8
"    "    "    "    private water supply	...	...	855	30.8
"    "    "    "    mains water supply	...	...	1882	67.7
"    "    "    "    pail closets	...	...	2088	75.0
"    "    "    "    water closets	...	...	547	19.7
"    "    "    "    privy middens	...	...	117	4.2
"    "    "    "    insufficient ventilation	...	...	1425	51.2
"    "    "    "    insufficient height	...	...	110	38.8
"    "    "    "    badly arranged	...	...	1123	40.4
"    "    "    "    with lack of amenities	...	...	901	32.4
"    "    "    "    with internal electricity	...	...	1673	60.1
"    "    "    "    back to back type	...	...	359	12.9
"    "    "    "    1 up and 1 down type houses	...	...	73	2.6
"    "    "    "    with no internal sink	...	...	1050	37.7
"    "    "    "    where inspection not made (illness, etc.)	...	...	29	1.0

It will be seen, therefore, that there is a large amount of reconditioning and improvement of existing houses to be dealt with. Here again, however, the overriding consideration is that of water supply ; until a sufficient supply is provided by the coming into fruition of the Council's Comprehensive scheme, it will not be possible to proceed with this work. One of the greatest improvements to be effected is the abolition of the large number of pail closets in the villages and the provision of internal water supply, baths, etc.—which will also require the provision of sewerage and sewage disposal schemes.

37 building licences were issued to the value of £21,173, for necessary repairs and improvements. 14 licences were granted for the erection of new houses.

*Rodent Control.*

During the past year there has been a marked increase in the number of complaints of rat and mice infestation, perhaps largely due to the increased public awareness through press and lectures of the damage and danger to health caused by these rodents. The prevention of Damage by Pests Act puts the responsibility for ensuring that the district is kept free from rats and mice upon the District Council, and in order that this can be efficiently done a full time Rodent Operator has been appointed. A total of 367 premises have been inspected and a total of 58 treatments carried out; sewers are treated twice yearly, and refuse tips and sewage disposal works, once quarterly.

**FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES & ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950.**

**SECTION 8**

**TUBERCULOUS MILK INVESTIGATIONS—ROUTINE MILK SAMPLES FOR BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION DURING THE YEAR, 1952.**

	<i>Total No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>
Pasteurised Milk ... ...	—	—
“Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ” Milk ... ...	—	—
“Tuberculin Tested ” Milk ...	12	Nil
“Accredited ” and non-graded Milk ... ... ...	89	2

**RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS OF TUBERCLE-INFECTED MILK SUPPLIES DURING THE YEAR, 1952.**

	<i>Cases found on routine sampling in the County</i>	<i>Cases reported by neighbouring County Authorities</i>
No. of Investigations ...	2	—
No. of cows examined ...	38	—
No. of milk samples for diagnostic purposes ... ...	6	—
No. of cows slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order ...	3	—
No. of cows removed from herds during investigations which may have been infected ... ... ...	—	—

*Building Bye-Laws.*

Plans have been received for the following :—

*Avon Dassett* ... Alterations to Cottage.  
 3 Garages (one building) access road thereto and site for new house.  
 New House.  
 Extensions to Bungalow.  
 Alterations to Cottage to form Post Office.  
 Extension to existing quarry workings.

*Chadshunt* ... Renewal of Temporary Permission—Caravan.

*Chesterton* ... Lean to for existing barn.

*Bishops Itchington* Use of Site for Stationing Caravan.  
 Outbuildings to Police House.  
 New Bathroom.  
 Implement Shed.  
 Stationing of Caravan.  
 Bathroom and Kitchen extension.  
 New W.C. and Coal House.

*Burton Dassett* ... New drainage.  
 Garage.  
 Extension to Village Hall—W.C.  
 Site for Portable Wooden Bungalow.  
 New drainage and septic tank.  
 Renewal of Temporary Permission—Caravan.  
 Revised Drainage and Septic Tank.  
 New Bungalow.  
 Proposed Village Hall.  
 Renewal of Temporary Permission—Caravan.  
 Use of existing building as joiner's and undertaker's workshop.  
 Renewal of Temporary Permission—Extension to Bakehouse.

*Farnborough* ... Renewal of Temporary Permission—double-deck (converted) 'bus.  
 Garage.

<i>Fenny Compton</i>	Renewal of Temporary Permission— Retention of Use of Nissen Hut as Temporary H.Q. Retention of one Caravan and siting of additional Caravan. Alterations to form Bathroom. Alterations and Extension. Lorry Shed. Extension to Stone Quarry. Erection of Garage. Sectional reinforced Garage. Brick Garage.
<i>Gaydon</i>	... Renewal of Temporary Permission— Garage, Storage Shed and closet. Extension to Cottage—Bathroom. Retention of Caravan. Proposed House. Renewal of Temporary Permission— Retention of 'bus as Living accom- modation. Pair of Cottages for Agricultural Workers. Velicular access. Renewal of Temporray Permission— Double decker 'bus as living accommodation. Extension to Lounge and Kitchen.
<i>Harbury</i>	... Renewal of Temporary Permission— Garage. Renewal of Temporary Permission— Surgery, dispensary and waiting room. Additions to Cottage. Renewal of Temporary Permission— Caravan as Hen House. New Office to Police House. Addition of Bathroom. Amended Site for Dwelling House. Site for House. Proposed House. Cowshed and Dairy. 3 Cottages—1 & 2 Washhouse & Closet. —2 Extension to Garage.

	Rear Extension to House.
	New Bar, Servery, Store, New Men's Lavatory and Women's Cloak-room.
	New access to existing office.
	Stationing of Caravan and small portable Hut.
	Conversion of Wing into Maisonette.
	Coal House and General purpose shed.
	Amendment to drainage for New Bungalow.
	Portable asbestos Garage.
	Reconstruction of existing shed.
	Portable shed for use as Office.
	New corrugated iron Shed.
	Retention of Caravan for living accommodation.
<i>Hodnoll</i>	... Conversion of Bedroom into Bathroom with H.W. system and drainage.
<i>Ladbroke</i>	... Renewal of Temporary Permission— Retention of Caravans for living accommodation. Use of existing Garden for sale of Teas and use of drive for Parking space. Use of site for construction of House. Alterations to access. Concrete Garage. Timber Garage.
<i>Lighthorne</i>	... Use of land for quarrying stone— alterations to existing access. New Bathroom. Provision of Bathroom and Septic Tank. Stationing of Midland "Red" bus for living accommodation.
<i>Long Itchington</i>	Bus Shelter. Proposed House. New Septic Tank. Site for House.

	Agricultural Store.
	Pig Sty.
	Drainage system.
	Building Plots for 36 Houses.
	Site for House.
	Rebuilding of Cottage.
	Stationing Caravan for Living accommodation.
	Use of land for storage of redundant Cars and Parts and Scrap Iron.
	Renewal of Temporary Permission— Garage.
	Renewal of Temporary Permission— Caravan.
	Improved Offices and Sewage Disposal.
<i>Napton</i>	...
	Renewal of Temporary Permission— Nissen Hut as dwelling.
	Alterations and Extension to form Bathroom and Kitchen.
	Dairy to Existing Cowhouse.
	Proposed Bungalow.
	Site for 2 Detached Houses.
	Open Hovel and Loose Box.
	House and Garage.
	Demolition of old building and construction of new to house New Continuous Kiln.
	Modernising Cottage.
	New Bungalow.
	Rebuilding Cottage.
<i>Priors Hardwick</i>	
	Retention of Caravan.
	New Bathroom on existing area, Garage, Coal House and W.C.
<i>Priors Marston</i> ...	Proposed House.
	Site for Farm House and Garage.
	Revised Drainage for New House.
	Site for Bungalow.
	Renewal of Temporary Permission— Cricket Pavilion.
	Retention of double-decker 'bus as Living accommodation.
	Bungalow.

	Revised drainage for proposed house. Dutch Barn and Cowshed.
	Revised drainage for Store and Wash-house.
	Garage, W.C. and Coals. Proposed House.
<i>Radbourne</i>	... Making up existing field gate. 2 new land gate accesses. 1 field gate access.
<i>Radway</i>	... Change of Use—Workshop to Private Garage. Additions to House.
<i>Ratley</i>	... Conservatory. Washhouse Extension. Amended plan of Washhouse Extension.
<i>Shotteswell.</i>	New Bed-sitting room. Garage or Shed.
<i>Shuckburgh</i>	... Site for erection of Dwelling House. Calf Pen and Grain Loft. Calf Pens.
<i>Southam</i>	... Renewal of Temporary Permission—Garage. Hangar as Depot for Cattle Lorries and Cattle Lairage. Conversion of 2 buildings into living accommodation. Alterations to form covered way and Store. Site for Agricultural Worker's Cottage. Replacement of Shed with larger one for Garage. Site for House. Site for Bungalow. Garage. Site for Agricultural Worker's Cottage. Site for House. Renewal of Temporary Permission—Builder's Workshop. Use of Premises as Cafe. Farm Worker's Bungalow.

Alteration of Buildings for use as  
Living Accommodation.  
New House.  
Site for 4 Houses.  
New Bungalow.  
New Pedestrian access.  
Revised Drainage.  
Renewal of Temporary Permission—  
Retention of Bedroom (Hut).  
New House.  
Agricultural Worker's House.  
Site for Proposed House.  
Stationing of Caravan and Shed.  
New entrance door and window.  
Renewal of Temporary Permission—  
2 Caravans and 1 shed.  
Renewal of Temporary Permission—  
1 Caravan.  
Renewal of Temporary Permission—  
Shed.  
New Shop Front.  
Renewal of Temporary Permission—  
1 Caravan and Storage accommoda-  
tion.  
Wooden Garage.  
New Kitchen, dry store and altera-  
tions to Bathroom.

*Stockton*      ... Retention of Caravan and Living  
Accommodation.  
Site for stationing Caravan.  
Use of 'bus as Agricultural Build-  
ing, formerly living accommoda-  
tion.  
Renewal of Temporary Permission—  
Garage.  
Use of site of 3 condemned Cottages  
for erection of New House and  
Garage.

*Ufton*      ... New vehicular access and Railway  
crossing.

*Warmington*      ... Use of site for stationing a Caravan.  
Use of a site for stationing a Caravan.

*Wormleighton*      ... Winning and working of sand,  
shingle and ballast.

TABLE I.  
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR, 1952.

		Inspections and observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances abated after notice.
			Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...	1578	2	53	49
Milkshops and Dairies	...	8	—	—	—
Bakehouse	...	7	—	2	2
Slaughterhouses (now closed)	...	7	—	—	—
Canal Boats	...	—	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	...	29	—	—	3
Deposits of Refuse and Manure		20	—	1	1
Water Closets	...	124	—	—	—
House Drainage	...	189	1	7	7
Pigsties	...	27	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept	...	7	—	1	1
Offensive trades	...	—	—	—	—
Smoke nuisance	...	13	—	—	—
Factories and Workshops	...	21	—	3	2
Food Shops	...	106	—	5	4
Rat and Mice Infestation	...	367	6	—	—
Dust Bins	...	519	—	—	—
Outworkers' Premises	...	3	—	—	—
Cafes	...	12	—	1	1
Infectious Diseases	...	9	—	—	—
Unsound Food	...	16	—	—	—
Water Supply	...	479	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b>	...	<b>3541</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>70</b>

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of infected bedding etc., disinfected or destroyed—

10 mattresses	11 pillows
50 blankets	16 sheets

Houses disinfected after cases of infectious disease ... 7

Schools disinfected after cases of infectious disease ... Nil

I wish to acknowledge the courtesy and assistance always received from the members of the Council, the Medical Officer of Health, and other officers of the Council; and express my thanks to all the members of my department for their loyal and conscientious assistance.

S. C. WHITEHEAD,  
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.

## SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

## VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1952 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1946	11,030	200	18.2	8	40	147	13.3
1947	11,380	252	22.1	12	48	131	11.5
1948	11,940	233	19.5	2	8	125	10.5
1949	11,990	226	19.0	11	49	135	11.3
1950	12,870	214	16.6	7	32.7	158	12.3
1951	12,700	226	17.8	6	26.5	138	10.9
1952	12,550	202	16.1	3	29.7	121	9.6

## VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1952.

## ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1952.  
(Provisional Figures).*

	Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.			Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
	Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths.	
England and Wales	...	...	15.3	0.35
160 Great Towns, including London	16.9		0.43	12.1
160 Smaller Towns	...	...	15.5	0.36
London	...	...	17.6	0.34
				12.6
				23.8

TABLE III.

## SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR  
1952.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	2
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Whooping Cough	...	9	2	4	3	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	67	3	30	30	1	3	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	11	...	1	3	4	3	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Totals</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>

TABLE IV.  
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1952.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ...	—	1
2 Tuberculosis, other ... ... ...	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease... ... ...	1	—
4 Diphtheria ... ... ...	—	—
5 Whooping cough ... ... ...	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections ... ...	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis ... ... ...	—	—
8 Measles ... ... ... ...	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ...	2	1
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	1	—
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ...	—	4
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ...	—	—
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ... ... ...	6	6
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ...	—	1
16 Diabetes ... ... ... ...	—	—
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	5	14
18 Coronary disease, angina ... ...	8	5
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	—
20 Other heart disease ... ... ...	12	19
21 Other circulatory disease ... ...	1	3
22 Influenza ... ... ... ...	—	1
23 Pneumonia ... ... ... ...	2	—
24 Bronchitis... ... ... ...	2	3
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	2	—
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—
28 Nephritis and nephrosis ... ...	1	1
29 Hyperplasia of prostate ... ...	—	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
31 Congenital malformations ... ...	—	1
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4
33 Motor vehicle accidents ... ...	3	1
34 All other accidents ... ...	2	1
35 Suicide ... ... ... ...	—	—
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All causes ... ... ... ...	54	67



